Assurance to China on Tibet issue

918. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assurance on the Tibet issue was given to the Chinese Government during the recent visit of the Prime Minister to that country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the reasons for departure, if any, from Government's earlier policy on the issue;

(c) whether the Assembly of Tibetan People's Deputies and the Tibetan Parliament in Exile have expressed resentment over the assurance given to the Chinese Government; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) During the Prime Minister's visit to China the consistent stand of the Government of India, that Tibet is an autonomous region of China and that activities incompatible with this position are not permitted on Indian soil was reiterated.

(c) and (d) Government are aware of representations made by the Tibetan community in India on this subject. There is no change in policy in this regard.

Delayed flights from Madras

919. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are monitoring the number of delayed flights to Madras from different points by Indian Airlines;

(b) what is the percentage of flights delayed by more than 30 minutes in December, 1988 and January, 1989;

(c) what are the reasons for such delays; and

(d) what measures are proposed to be taken to fix responsibilitiy on the staff for delays where there is no genuine engine trouble, etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Indian Airlines is monitoring all its delayed flights and periodic statements are sent to Government.

(b) and (c) The percentage of flights of Indian Airlines that were delayed by more than 30 minutes during December, 1988 and January, 1989 and the reasons therefor are as follows: —

Resaons	Delay rate	
	Dec. 88	Jan'89
Commercial . .	0.39	0.27
Operations . .	0.23	0.15
Engineering .	2.53	1.97
Ground Support .	0.11	0.0
Weather . .	3.56	2.93
Airport Facilities .	0.60	0.49
Miscellaneous .	1.49	1.8
Consequential .	38.14	37.2
TOTAL .	47.05	45.13

(d) In case the cause for delay to a flight is established due to the negligence on the part of staff,

suitable disciplinary action is taken in accordance with the rules.

Ensuring better functioning of IAAI and NAA

920. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations that IAAI and the NAA should be better supervised;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to ensure better functioning of these two bodies;

(c) whether it is a fact that no senior officials ever visited the Airports at rush hours to see the travail of the passengers; and

(d) what guidelines are proposed to be issued to ensure that some mandatory visits to airports by senior officers take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (d) IAAI and NAA are by and large functioning satisfactorily. At the airports, senior officers are normally available to supervise facilitation of passengers during rush hours. Officers from Headquarters also pay surprise visits to airports to monitor the working. A system of periodic inspection by Senior officers is also in vogue.

Increasing berthing charges for fishing vessels

921. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU; Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that berthing charges and other expenses are continuously increasing for fishing vessels in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what are the reasons for increases in chrges when the shipping industry is in doldrums; and

(c) what are the reasons for not reversing such charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Berthing charges on vessels are revised to meet operating expenditure. However, in respect of the Fishing Harbours at Tuticorin and Madras no revision has taken place recently,

Proposal to amend rules for grant of Arjun Award

922. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the rules for the grant of Arjun Awards;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGRET ALVA): (a) to (c) Government has decided to increase the cash component of the Arjuna Award from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 20,000. The amount of Rs. 4,000 was fixed several years ago and was considered inadequate.

Ignoring of Fire Brigade advice while constructing Sahar Airport

923. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of a CIVIL